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REPORTS
OF THE
Selectmen and Treasurer,
AND
Superintending School Committee,
OF THE
TOWN OF HARRISVILLE,
FOR THE
Year ending March 1st,
1875.

KEENE:
SENTINEL PRINTING COMPANY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS,
1875.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
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REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF HARRISVILLE, MARCH, 1875.

In submitting our Report of the Public Schools in this town for the past year, we labor under the disadvantage of having had but slight acquaintance with them heretofore. In comparing them, however, with the reports presented a year ago, we have the impression that an encouraging advance has been made. In the table which closes this report, it will be seen that in the column of whole No. of scholars, there is an increase of 42; that there have been 11 3-10 weeks more of schooling, and \$131.70 more paid to teachers.

Our first visit was to the PRIMARY SCHOOL, DISTRICT No. 1. In this school the same instructor was employed during both terms, and a better selection we think, could scarcely have been made. Her patient self-control seemed to control all those placed under her charge. It was a surprise to us that a company of forty-eight children, of ages ranging from four to eleven years, could be kept so quiet. We do not remember seeing any whispering or other disorderly conduct during the four half days we spent with them. The Register reveals the great fault of the school, — that there were too many cases of tardiness. It is greatly to the credit of the school, however, that these cases were not half so numerous during the second term as the first. The attention to study, and the progress made, were all that could reasonably be expected of those so young.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL. — The summer term of this school closed before the appointed time, on account of the sudden ill-

ness of the teacher ; we visited it, therefore, only at the commencement. The teacher, who was amply qualified to impart instruction, engaged earnestly in her work, and the studious among her pupils, we doubt not, made good progress ; yet, when we were in, there was a lack of that quietness and order which are indispensable to the greatest advancement and the best interests of a school. This was due in part, we have no doubt, to the fact that the school was compelled to hold its sessions in the vestry, where the seats and desks are moveable, and the pupils are obliged to sit quite too near each other. During a portion of the year there must be two schools in this district at the same time ; and since it is so, we think the people cannot do themselves and their children a greater favor than to furnish an additional school-room, as ample in size and facilities as the one they now have.

The winter session of this school, held in the school-room was remarkably successful. The quietness with which the scholars entered and left the room, their respectful bearing towards their instructor, and their order generally, was an honor to them. From scholars of such a spirit we expected great readiness and accuracy in recitation, -- and we were not disappointed. In penmanship also, to which all but one attended, there was good improvement. The principal fault we noticed was too great rapidity and a want of loudness in reading.

DISTRICT No. 2. — This District during the past year have repaired and remodeled their school-house, at an expense of \$600.00. It now has two rooms, the school-room proper, for study and recitations, furnished with new seats, desks, clock, stove, and other furniture ; and an ante-room, with stove and seats, for the accommodation of the pupils at noon and recess. The outside has been newly painted, and blinds have been put to the windows, making the house attractive without as well as within. During the first two terms the school was taught by one who had had charge of it during a previous term. There was good order and commendable progress, especially during the second term. We were sorry to observe, however, that there was less regularity in the attendance, it

being but 82 per cent. instead of the 90 per cent. of the preceding term. During the Winter term the attendance was still more irregular. Hence whilst the progress made by some was good, that of others was small. The attention given to map-drawing was very gratifying, but we were surprised and disappointed to find that penmanship had been entirely neglected.

DISTRICT No. 3. — During the Summer term this school was in charge of one having her first experience as an instructor, — an experience which we thought promising. There was excellent order, and a good degree of studiousness and progress. Four of the ten pupils were neither absent or tardy. The second term of this school, contrary to our expectation, closed in the forenoon instead of the afternoon; we consequently visited it but once and report only from the Register. During its third term this school was again under the direction of a teacher having his first experience. The scholars present at the final examination acquitted themselves well, giving evidence that they prized and had improved their advantages; but we regret to say, only seven of the fifteen whose names are registered, were present, and that the percentage of attendance was very low.

DISTRICT No. 4. — This school, though small, contains some of our best scholars. Order, studiousness, and accuracy in recitation, prevailed here in an unusual degree. The teacher, who has had charge of the school during both terms of the year, and previously, possesses a zeal which seemed to inspire the dullest of her pupils; and though some were sadly deficient in regularity of attendance, yet even these surprised us by the progress they had made. It was gratifying to us to observe that the percentage of attendance and punctuality was better the second term than the first.

DISTRICT No. 5. — This school, during two of its terms, reached a higher percentage in regularity of attendance, than any other, it being 91. During the first term, a portion of the scholars gave themselves to study, and make commendable progress, whilst others were far too idle and uneasy. In the

second term, new life seemed to pervade all. The teacher felt that she must have a working school, and the scholars caught the same spirit. The effect was manifest. A distinctness and accuracy characterized the reading and recitations, which evinced both studiousness and painstaking. We have never seen greater improvement during the same length of time. In the Winter term there was the same teacher, and the same earnestness in study; and though, on account of the unusual amount of sickness among the scholars, the general progress was not so marked, yet it was all that could be expected. We were especially gratified, under the circumstances, that there were but one-fifth as many tardy marks as during the corresponding term last year, and that five of the pupils were neither absent nor tardy. A sadness was cast over the school during its last term, by the loss of one of its most advanced and promising scholars by death.

Five scholars from this town have attended school in District No. 6, Dublin; whilst three from Dublin, and five from Hancock, have attended our schools in Districts Nos. 4 and 5. The whole number of different scholars in town who have attended the public schools the past year is 204. Six have not been absent for the entire year, viz: Alice M. Hutchinson, Carrie E. Silver, Winnie Barker, Chester Russell, E. Bertie Russell, and Eddie Tuttle. The number of children in town between four and fourteen years of age, reported in the Registers as not attending school is 24; viz: 20 in District No. 1, and 4 in District No. 2. Reading and Spelling were attended to by all in all the schools. There was one scholar in Latin in District No. 3; one in Geometry in No. 4; and one in Rhetoric and Word Analysis in No. 5. With the above exceptions, we report by table the studies pursued in the different schools, and the number that attended to them; the whole number of scholars; the number of different scholars; the percentage of attendance; the number not absent one-half day; the length of the schools; the names and wages of the teachers; the amount paid each; and the average per different scholar for the year. From this

statement, and our remarks upon the schools separately, it will be seen that their progress in general has been good, and that some have excelled. Irregularity in attendance has been the most serious fault, the absences in some of the schools being 25 per cent. The unusual amount of sickness that has prevailed does not account for all of this; for the school which has been the most afflicted, has the best percentage of attendance. This evil is a grave one; for the absentees not only rob themselves of the benefits of school while absent, but greatly impair their ability to improve when present. Losing the lessons recited in their absence, leaves them confused as to those they study afterwards. To abate this evil, parents must see that their children are invariably and promptly at school, except when absence is absolutely indispensable. Teachers also must strive to make their instructions profitable, by making them as attractive as possible.

Here we will venture a word to Prudential Committees. Where a teacher is known to have the gift of order, and with this, competent knowledge, and an ability to impart that knowledge in a clear and interesting manner, spare no pains to secure that teacher. Be in season, and be in earnest.

In closing we would say that the change in Reading Books suggested last year meets our approval, and would have been carried into effect but for the fact that when we had made up our mind as to the series which should take the place of those now in use, the financial pressure was stopping the resources of so many we thought it wise to defer the matter till another year.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES NEWHALL,

Superintending Sch. Com.

Harrisville, March 9, 1875.

TABLE.

District.	Terms.	Length of School in Weeks.	Teachers.	Whole No. of Scholars.	No. of Different Scholars.	Percentage of Attendance.	Not Absent One Half-day.	No. in Penmanship.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	Composition.	History.	Book-Keeping.	Philosophy.	Physiology.	Algebra.	Wages of Teacher per month, Including Board.	Amount Paid Teacher.	Average per Different Scholar per Year.
1 Prim'y Summer.		9	B. Hutchinson,	48		.80	17	6	13									\$30.00	\$67.50	
1 Prim'y Fall.		10	"	44	52	.86	7	6	17	2								30.00	75.00	2.74
1 Gram. Summer.		8½	D. Osgood,	35		.90	7	18	35	32	14						5	36.00	74.70	
1 Gram. Winter.		10	F. Nesmith,	42	48	.90	9	41	42	37	14	4					5	43.00	107.50	3.80
2 Summer.		8	C. E. Wood,	38		.90	6	21	25	15	10		4		3			32.50	65.00	
2 Fall.		8	"	35	54	.82	2	12	21	15	8			3			2	36.50	73.00	4.37
2 Winter.		10	E. Taft,	35		.80	2	28	10	14	10				2		1	40.00	100.00	
3 Summer.		8	R. L. Brown,	10		.85	4	3	5	4	5	2						24.00	48.00	
3 Fall.		6	J. E. D. Morse,	21	20	.82	2	3	20	18	5			1				28.00	42.00	9.30
3 Winter.		12	H. I. Hayward,	15		.73	1	3	11	5	11				3		3	32.00	96.00	
4 Summer.		10	E. I. Tarbox,	9		.74		6	6	4		2		1			1	24.00	60.00	
4 Winter.		12	"	11	12	.78		5	9	3	3	5			2		2	30.00	90.00	12.50
5 Summer.		9	I. E. Johnson,	12		.91	1	8	7	6	4				1		1	24.00	49.50	
5 Fall.		7	C. R. Heath,	20	21	.84	5	12	14	6	10	5	8				2	22.00	63.00	9.64
5 Winter.		10	"	16		.91	5	10	9	10	6	9			1		3	36.00	90.00	
Totals.		137½		391	207		68	154	262	167	104	40	23	8	13	4	25		1101.20	5.32

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen would respectfully submit the following report of the financial affairs of the town :

Total valuation, April, 1874,	\$354,272.00
Reduced " " "	1,771.36
State, County, Town and School taxes assessed,	4,087.44
School House tax Dist. No. 2,	219.20
" " " " " 3,	32.02
" " " " " 4,	49.64
No. of Dogs 37, tax	40.00
Amount of Highway tax assessed,	1,023.36

LIABILITIES.

Outstanding notes and interest,	\$2273.95
Outstanding Treasury orders,	50.00
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	\$2,323.95

ASSETS.

Outstanding taxes, 1870,	\$189.89
" " 1873,	44.63
" " 1874,	663.88
Cash value of Liquor on hand,	25.00
" " of Land Fund received from Dublin,	1,417.39
Cash balance in treasury,	247.69
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	\$2,588.49

The town has the following sums to be applied to the support of schools the ensuing year :

Literary fund now in the treasury,	\$75.81
Interest on school fund,	42.53
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	\$118.34

We would recommend to be raised by tax the ensuing year the following sums :

To pay State tax,	\$1,000.00
To pay County tax,	650.00
For the support of schools,	1,000.00
To pay town debt and interest,	500.00
To defray town charges,	300.00
To repair highways,	800.00

The following is the division of money appropriated to the repair of highways :

District No. 1.	Gilman Kendall, surveyor,	\$285 61
" " 2,	Wm. Lakin, "	80.98
" " 3,	Levi W. Fisk, "	36.46
" " 4,	Bela Morse, "	57.45
" " 5,	George Wood, "	61.69
" " 6,	Gilman Kendall, "	47.00
" " 7,	Walter B. F. Rowe, "	31.97
" " 8,	Jonas Wight, "	49 48
" " 9,	Joel F. Mason, "	116.35
" " 10,	Joel F. Mason, "	61.87
" " 11,	Benjamin Willard, "	47.94
" " 12,	Edward L. Seaver, "	34.09
" " 13,	Nelson Yardly, "	57 76
" " 14,	John C. Barry, "	28 00
Worked out under the direction of the Selectmen,		27.16
Total		\$1023.36

SAMUEL D. BEMIS,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
ZOPHAR WILLARD,	
LUTHER P. EATON,	

of
Harrisville.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

DR.

March 21, 1874,	Received of Town Treasurer,	\$16 00
April 7,	" " " " " "	1.25
" 7,	" " County "	40 69
May 30,	" " Town "	9.50
Sept. 26,	" " " " "	11.60
Oct. 17,	" " " " "	30.00
" 22,	" " County "	57 46
" 29,	" " Town "	3 00
" 21,	" " " " "	10 00
Dec. 11,	" " " " "	8.00
Feb. 24, 1875,	" " " " "	9 60
		\$197.10

CR.

March 21, 1874,	paid Zophar Willard, for flour for S. A. Seaver,	\$10.00
March 21,	paid Wm H. Jones, goods for S. A. Seaver,	6.00
April 11,	" Mary Ann Yardly for board and cloth- ing Martha Cobb 25 weeks,	35.44
April 11,	paid Levi E. Priest, keeping transient paupers,	7.00
May 30,	" Zophar Willard for flour for S. A. Seaver,	9.00
Sept. 26,	" " " flour and meal "	11.60
Oct. 19,	" John Rutherford for keeping Albert Robinson,	30.00
" 23,	" Mary Ann Yardly, for board and clothing for Martha Cobb 26 weeks,	37.46
" 28,	" Levi E. Priest, for keeping transient paupers,	3.00
" 21,	" Wm. H. Jones, for goods for S. A. Seaver,	10.00
Feb. 16,	" Town Treasurer, money collected from county,	20.00
" 24,	" Zophar Willard, for flour and meal for S. A. Seaver,	9.60
Dec. 11,	" Sarah M. Hazen, for boarding Peter Mulgrew,	8 00
		<hr/> \$197.10

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL D BEMIS,	} <i>Overseers of Poor</i>
ZOPHAR WILLARD,	
LUTHER P. EATON,	
	<i>for the Town of</i>
	<i>Harrisville.</i>

This may certify that I have examined the above account of
the Overseers of the poor and find it correctly cast and proper-
ly vouched.

CHAS. C. P. HARRIS, *Auditor.*

Harrisville, Feb. 26, 1875.

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER.

RECEIPTS.

March 2, 1874, Amount on hand in State Bonds,	\$3,100.00
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Cash,	409.37
Received of Aaron Smith, Agt. Town Funds,	42.53
“ Interest on State Bonds,	26.86
“ of H. S. Davis, sales of Liquors,	87.32
“ of Secretary of State for Savings Bank Tax,	743.04
“ of “ “ “ “ Literary Fund,	75.85
“ of Geo. W. Mason, Collector, taxes of 1873.	825.00
“ of “ “ “ “ “ “ 1874,	3,800.00
“ of Selectmen, money collected from County.	20.00
	\$9,129.97

DISBURSEMENTS.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Samuel D. Bemis for services as 1st Selectman,	\$77.50
“ Zophar Willard, “ “ as 2d, “	39.00
“ Luther P. Eaton, “ “ “ 3d, “	33.00
“ S. L. Randall, “ “ “ Town Clerk,	20.00
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ Treasurer,	30.00
“ Geo. W. Mason, “ “ “ Collector of Taxes	50.00
“ Charles Newall, for Sup. School Committee,	30.00
“ Charles C. P. Harris, for services as Auditor,	3.00
“ M. J. Russell, for services as Police officer,	6.00
“ A. N. Wardwell, for “ “ “ “	6.00
“ S. D. Bemis, Overseer of the poor,	12.00
“ H. S. Davis, for services as liquor agent,	23.00

Total,	\$329.50
Paid County tax,	\$643.12
“ State tax,	1,008.00
	\$1,651.12

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid Prudential Committee District No. 1,	\$415.25
" " " " 2,	246.67
" " " " 3,	160.91
" " " " 4,	149.05
" " " " 5,	159.42
" " " No. 6, Dublin,	47.87
" " " " 3, Nelson,	7.56
" " " " 5, "	4.62
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	\$1,191.35

NOTES AND INTEREST.

Paid Milan Harris,	\$ 45.36
" Charles C. P. Harris,	1,072.78
" Lucy Sargent,	550.00
" Samuel F. Townsend,	154.98
" Wm. A. Wheeler,	337.92
" Moses Fairbanks,	620.80
" Jesse R. Appleton,	329.03
" John P. Wheeler,	140.15
" Lucy Sargeant,	66.45
" Aaron Smith,	160.20
" Calvin Mason,	678.64
" Levi W. Fisk,	128.37
" Lucy B. Richardson,	169.37
" Darius Farwell,	6.00
" Ira Smith's estate,	36.00
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	\$4,496.05

REPAIRING HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Gilman Gilchrist,	\$12.36
" John C. Barry,	1.92
" John Rutherford,	1.64
" George F. Tufts,	1.50
" Joel F. Mason,	10.00
" Luther P. Eaton, for Plank,	.72
" Levi E. Priest,	6.00
" Chas. Sheldon,	13.75
" Austin E. Chamberlin,	4.50
" Willard & Atwood, for plank,	89.91
" Levi W. Fisk,	13.75
" Wm. Lakin,	21.50
" Darius Farwell,	3.80

Paid Nelson Yardly,	\$22.40
“ Orlando Fogg,	12.50
“ James H. Brooks,	37.84
“ Chas. A. Bemis, for gravel.	8.00
“ John Trudell,	5 00
“ W. W. Seaver, (in 1873).	14.04
“ W. W. Seaver,	4.46
“ Joel F. Mason, for plank,	17.93
“ Bemis & Symonds, plank for bridges,	13.96
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	\$317.48

BREAKING ROADS.

Paid Chauncey Barker,	\$4.04
Nelson Yardly,	6.40
Gorban C. Farwell,	8.65
Joseph Evans,	2.00
Cornelius Towne,	4.30
Geo. M. Tarbox,	5.85
David C. Owen,	3.40
W. W. Seaver,	1.90
Willard & Atwood,	4.00
William Lakin,	3.00
H. J. & C. C. Farwell,	5.00
Milan Parker,	3.08
Levi W. Fisk,	2.10
Gilman Gilchrist,	1.50
Luther P. Eaton,	1.90
J. F. & J. A. Mason,	4.80
Jonas Wight,	2.00
C. C. Seaver,	4.10
Gilman Kendall,	11.30
George Wood,	4.75
Henry A. Adams,	3.02
John S. Gilchrist, in 1873,	2.00
Martin M. Mason,	4.40
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	\$93.49

SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

Paid W. H. Jones, for goods furnished S. A. Seaver,	\$6.00
Zophar Willard, for flour furnished S. A. Seaver,	9.50
L. E. Priest, for keeping transient paupers,	1.75

Zophar Willard, for provisions furnished S. A. Seaver,	\$11.60
John Rutherford, for keeping pauper,	30.00
S. D. Bemis, keeping transient pauper,	.75
Zophar Willard, keeping transient pauper,	2.00
Wm. H. Jones, for goods furnished S. A. Seaver,	10.00
L. E. Priest, for keeping transient paupers,	3.00
Dexter Derby, towards the support of Eliza Smith,	35.20
Sarah M. Hazen, for boarding Peter Mulgrew,	8.00
For flour and meal for S. A. Seaver,	9 60

\$127.40

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid Aaron Smith, school house tax in Dis. No. 2,	\$219.20
David M. Townsend, " " " 4,	46 83
Corban C. Farwell, " " " 3,	32.02
Gilman Gilchrist, working non-resident taxes,	3 04
Wm. H. Jones, trunk for records,	1 75
H. H. Smith, return record of births and deaths 1873,	2.25
" " " " " " 1872,	1.75
Julius N. Morse, printing reports,	25.00
Samuel D. Bemis, paid for stationery,	4.55
Milan Harris, damage of land in Island Cemetery,	10 00
Edward L. Seaver, working non-resident taxes,	2.31
Wheeler & Faulkner, services in bastardy case,	4.00
S. D. Bemis, cash paid for telegraphing,	.60
L. L. Howe, stopping mill to repair bridge in 1871,	3.00
Levi W. Fisk, working non-resident taxes,	3.78
William Lakin, " " "	2.07
Caleb Philbrick, digging graves,	4.00
George F. Tufts, sharpening drills,	.55
Charles Ryan, damages received on highway,	5.00
Jonas Wight, working non-resident taxes,	.80
Aaron Smith, fitting up cemetery at Pottersville,	75.00
S. L. Randall, miscellaneous expenses,	5.00
George W. Mason, highway receipts for 1873,	28.54
" " abatement of taxes in 1873,	34.73
" " " " 1874,	17.68
Wm. H. Jones, for use of Eagle Hall,	40.00
" " for powder, fuse &c.,	2.68
Francis Stratton, for painting hearse,	16 00
" " for services as sexton for 1874,	37.50
Geo. W. Mason, for highway receipts for 1874,	13.43
G. W. Hayward, sexton service for Augusta A. Gilchrist,	5.00
J. W. Powers, " " " Eveline Fisk,	4.50

Sam'l D. Bemis, blanks, postage and stationery,	1.65
Aaron Smith, on account Pottersville Cemetery,	21.68

\$675.89

Total Receipts,	\$9,129.97
“ Disbursements,	8,882.28

Balance in Treasury,	\$247.69
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Respectfully Submitted,

S. L. RANDALL,

Town Treasurer.

HARRISVILLE, FEBRUARY 26, 1875.

This certifies that I have examined the above Town Treasurer's Account, and find it to be correctly cast and properly vouched.

CHARLES E. P. HARRIS,

Auditor.

Amount of Bank - \$100.00 and interest
Amount of Cash - \$100.00 and interest

\$100.00

\$100.00

\$100.00

\$100.00

Respectfully Submitted,

S. L. RANDALL,

Town Treasurer.

Witness my hand and seal this 25th day of
January 1881, at the Town of
Harrisville, New Hampshire.

CHARLES E. P. HARRIS

Town Clerk.

New Hampshire State Library



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